GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1709
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2003
PRODUCTION OF BIO-FERTILIZERS
NANDIPAKU VENKATASWAMY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to increase production of bio-fertilizers like Vermi-Compost etc. and encourage farmers to use these bio-fertilizers and undertake organic farming;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any subsidy is being given to farmers for encouraging them to produce as well as use bio-fertilizer; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): During 10th Plan it is envisaged to implement a new scheme, `National Project on Organic Farming` which includes setting up of a National Institute of Organic Farming (NIOF) andts Regional Centres to promote and facilitate various aspects of organic farming in the country. The scheme includes inter-alia support to commercial production units of organic inputs like fruit and vegetable vest compost units, bio-fertilizers production units and hatcheries for vermiculture etc.

(c)&(d): To make available bio-fertilizers at reasonable rate and also as to encourage the use of bio-fertilizers among farmers the Government has provided a non-recurring grant upto Rs.20 lakhs during 9th Plan for setting up for Bio-fertilizers production units. This activity is proposed to be continued during 10th Plan under the National Project on Organic Farming.